

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A gateway as a node of a local network and a wide area network includes a first command processor for processing a first command according to a first network protocol which is used in the local network, a network configuration storing unit for storing gateway specifying information for specifying another gateway connected via the wide area network and a second command processor for processing a second command according to a second network protocol which is used in the wide area network and executing protocol conversion between the first network protocol and the second network protocol, thereby controlling permission or inhibition of communication on the basis of the gateway specifying information stored in the network configuration storing unit.